

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CAIRO 03455 170951Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O 170930Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1014

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 3455

EXDIS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: BTRA

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE VISIT OF COCA-COLA EXECUTIVE

REF: STATE 064309

1. AM FULLY AWARE OF COCA-COLA ITEM AND INTEND DISCUSS IT WITH FAHMY WHEN I NEXT SEE HIM. COULD NOT DISCUSS IT WITH HIM AT MY MARCH 11 MEETING BECAUSE OF LACK OF TIME. AS REPORTED CAIRO'S 3435, HE HAS REPEATEDLY POSTPONED SCHEDULED MEETINGS WITH ME FOR THE PAST TWO DAYS BECAUSE OF PREOCCUPATION WITH ARAB LEAGUE FONMIN MEETINGS AND OTHER VISITORS. A MEETING IS SUPPOSED TO BE RESCHEDULED FOR TDOAY.

2. AS I MENTIONED IN THE MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY, WE SHOULD NOT EXPECT THAT THERE WILL BE GREAT RECEPTIVITY AT THIS TIME. FAHMY IS STILL WORKING ON FORD MATTER AND, AS HE REPEATEDLY MADE CLEAR IN THE ALEXANDRIA TALKS, HE INTENDS TO MOVE AHEAD ON SELECTED AMERICAN FIRMS, BUT TO DO SO GRADUALLY. COCA-COLA IS NOT HIS HIGHEST PRIORITY.

3. I WILL NEVERTHELESS INQUIRE WHETHER AUSTIN OR AYUB WOULD BE WELCOME IN CAIRO AND, MORE IMPORTANTLY, CONFIDENTIAL

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WHETHER FAHMY WOULD SEE ONE OR THE OTHER OR AUTHORIZE

APPROPRIATE EGYPTIAN OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS SUBSTANTIVE
COCA-COLA MATTERS. WILL LET YOU KNOW RESULTS ASAP.
EILTS

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NNN

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